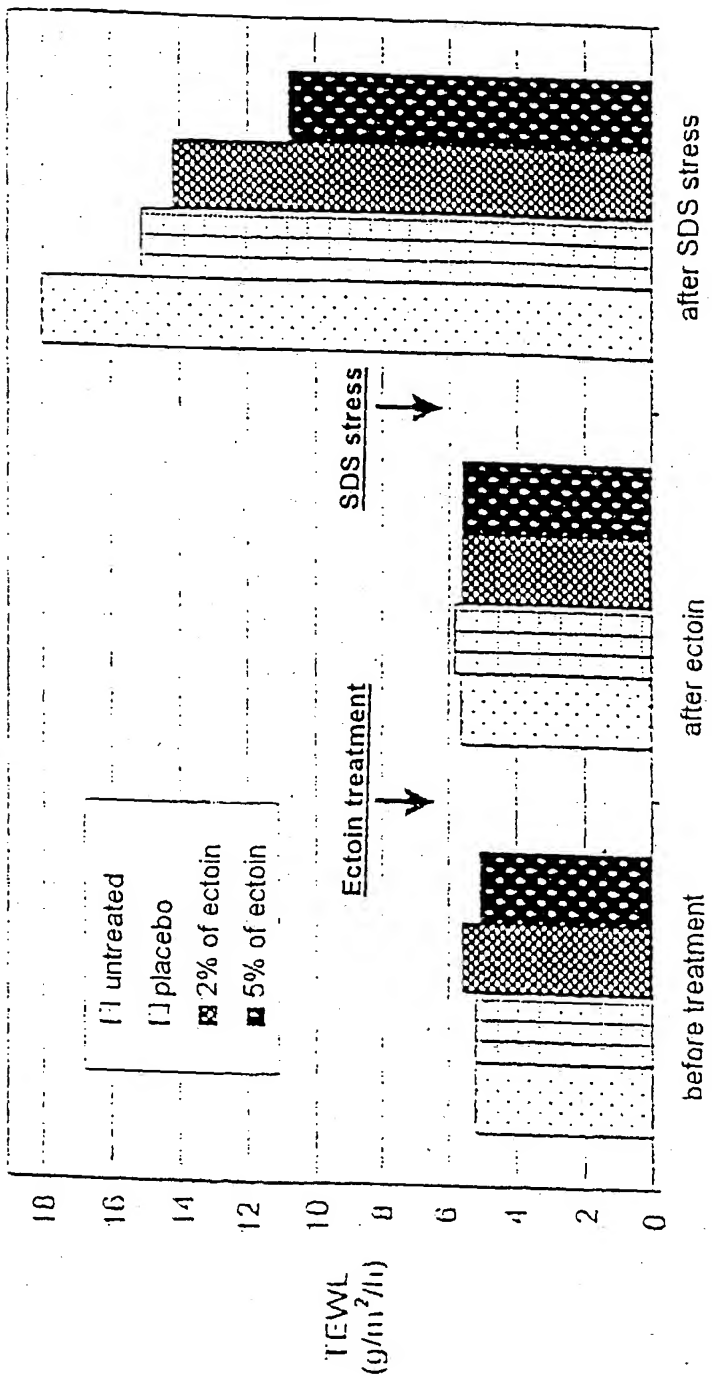

Fig. 1 In vivo determination of the transepidermal water loss (TEWL) following damage to the skin barrier by SDS treatment

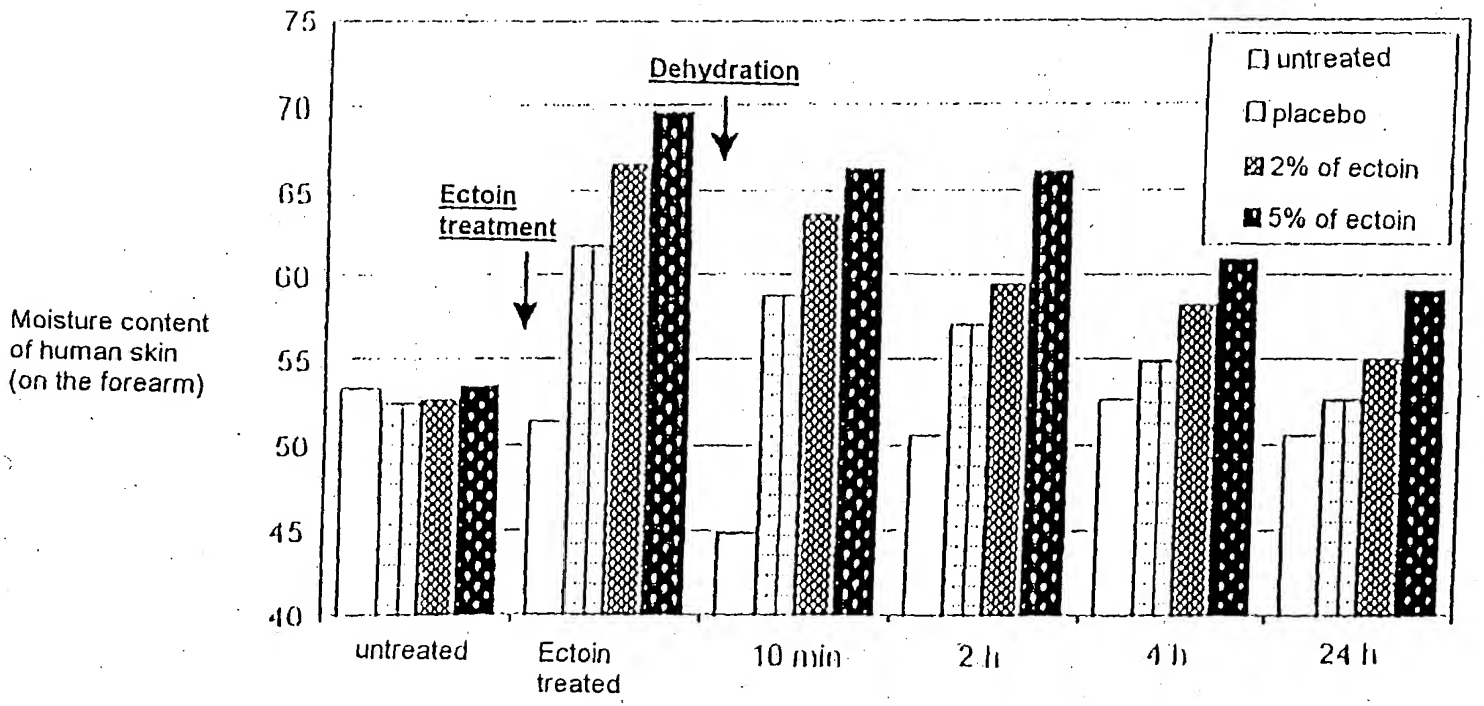

Figure 2: In vivo determination of the skin moisture after ectoin treatment and dehydration by means of silica gel

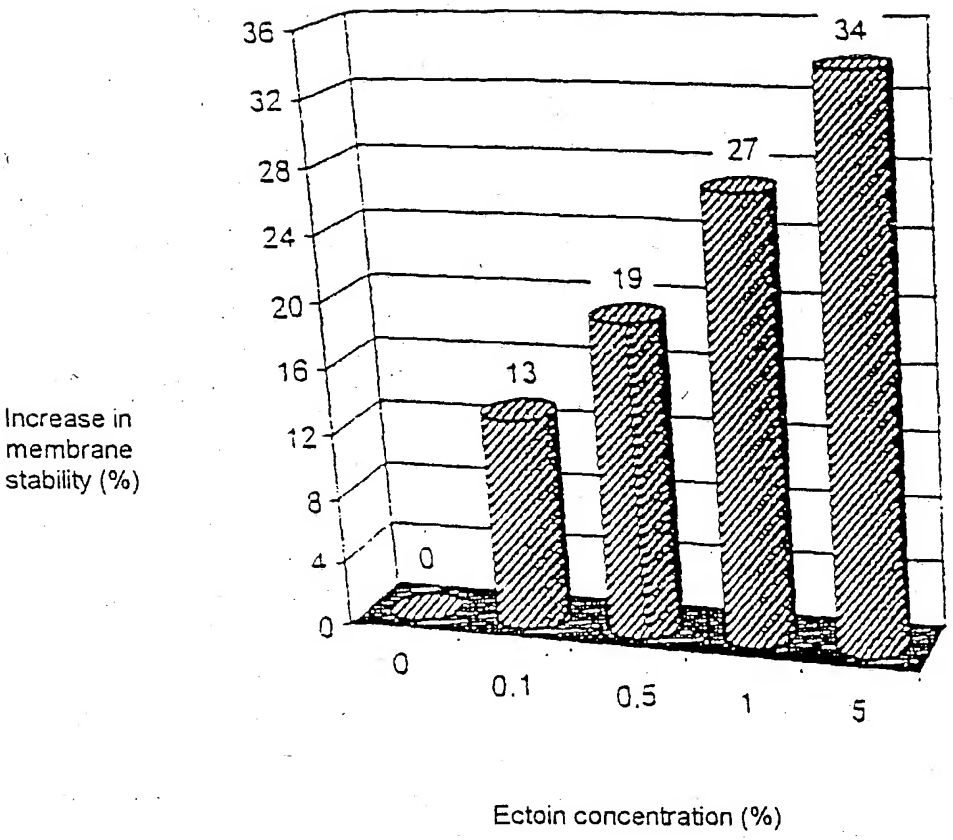

Fig. 3 Determination of the membrane-stabilizing action of human erythrocytes pretreated with ectoin against SDS

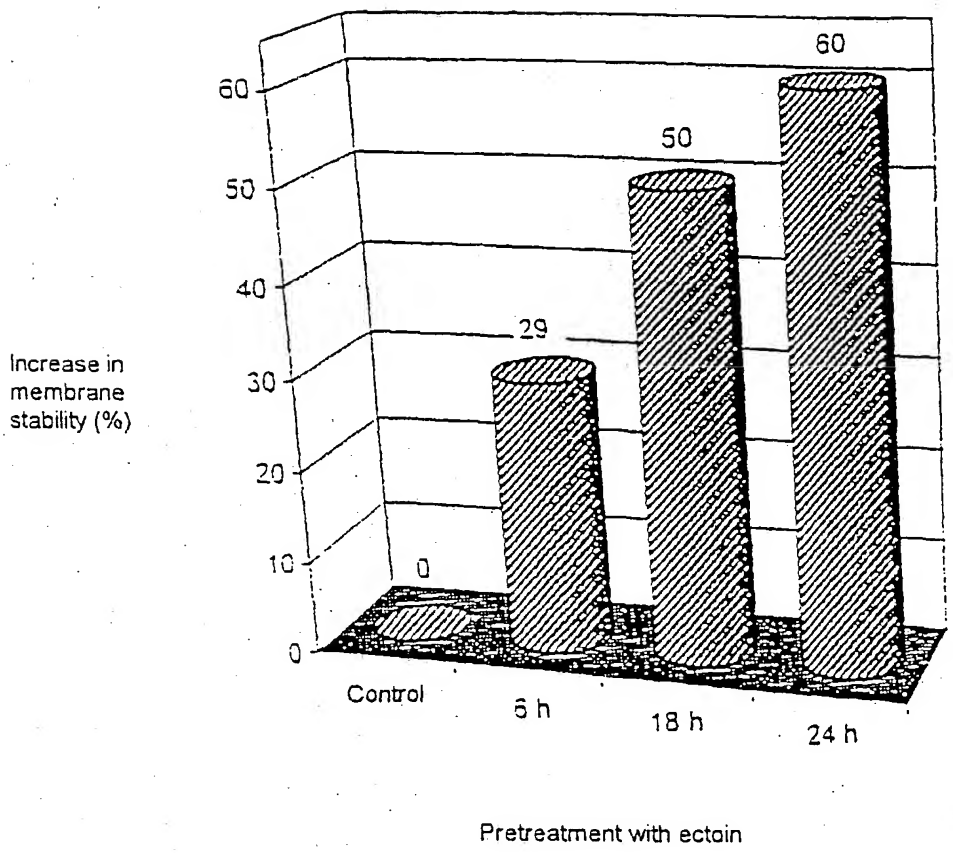

Fig. 4 Determination of the membrane-stabilizing action of human erythrocytes pretreated with ectoin against SDS

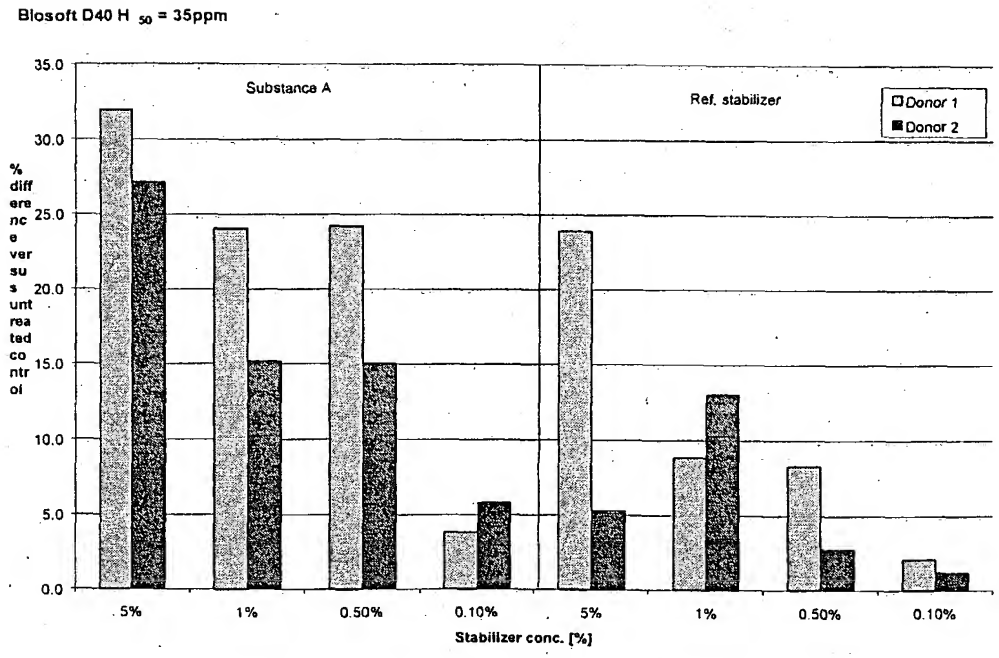

Figure 5 : *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant H_{50} was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.

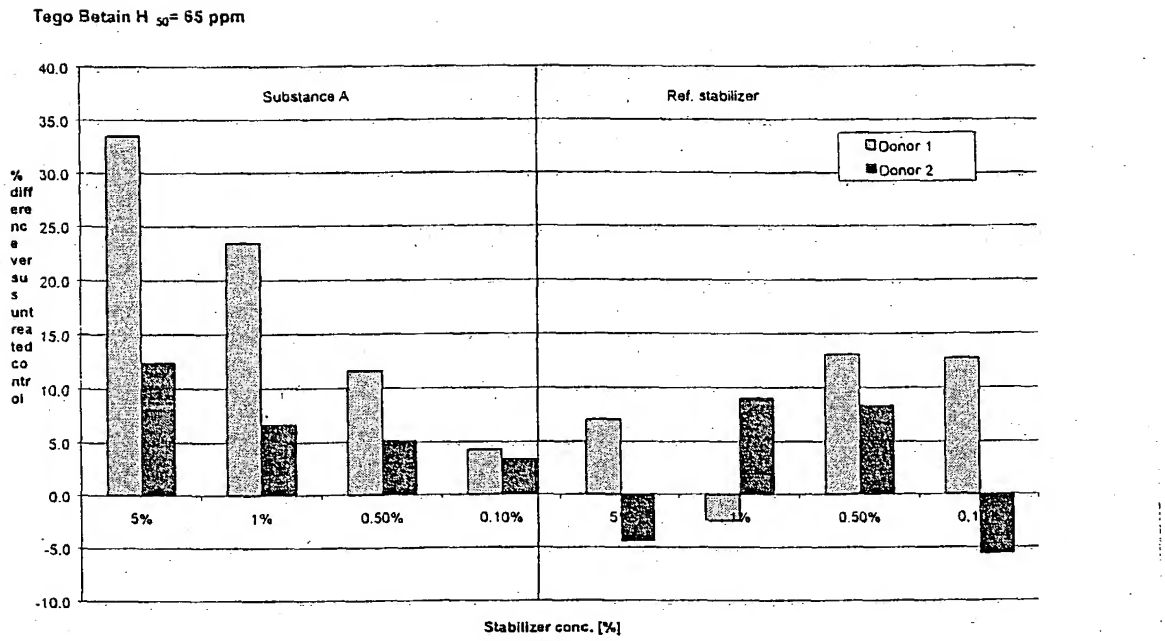

Figure 6: *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant H_{50} was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.

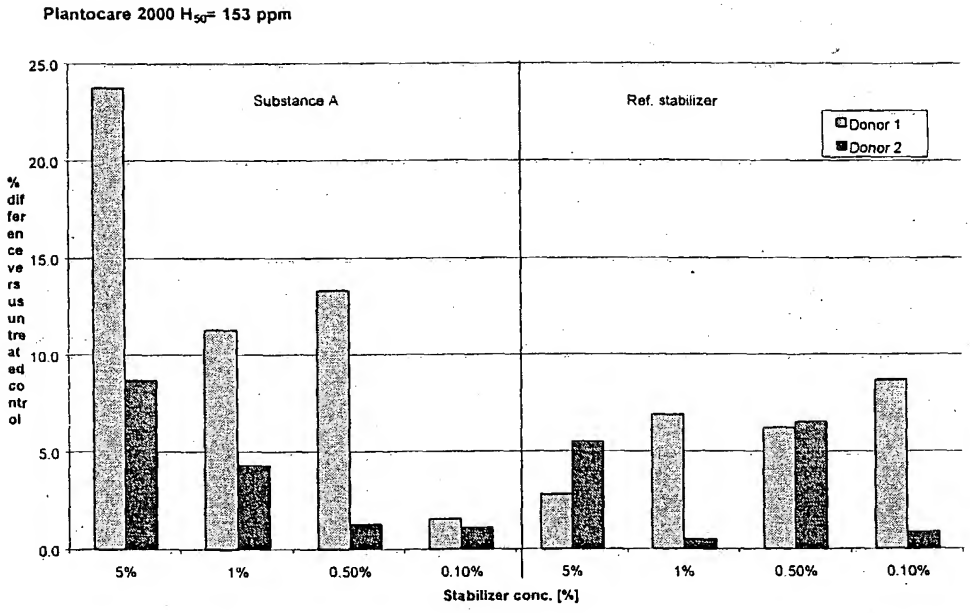

Figure 7: *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant H_{50} was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.

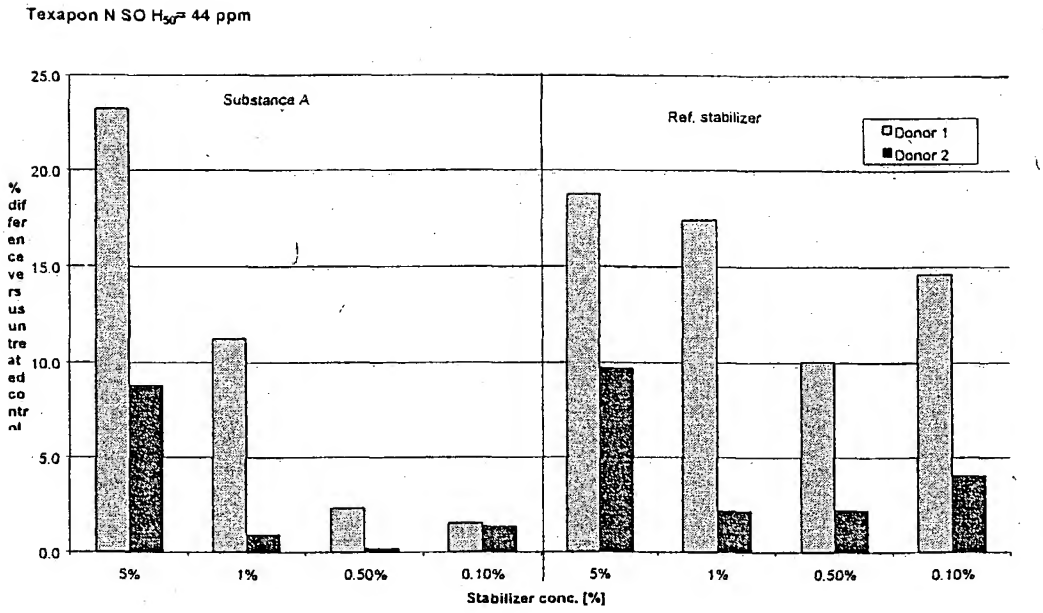

Figure 8: *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant H_{50} was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.

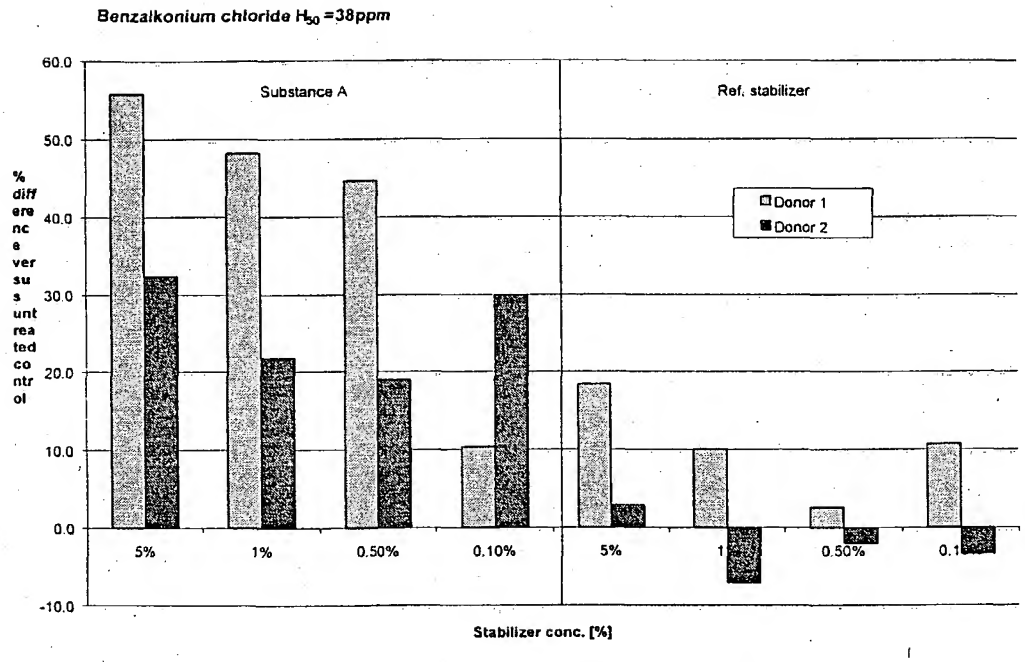

Figure 9 : *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant H_{50} was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.